

Gerald Hodgins
133 North Main Street
Boonton, New Jersey 07005

January 15, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

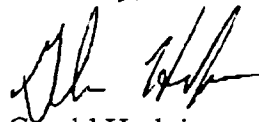
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I was recently surprised to hear that the settlement between Microsoft and the Department of Justice might be even further delayed. After three years of negotiations, it is hard to believe that there are some groups that still want to delay the execution of this well thought out agreement. The settlement is not only fair and reasonable, but is in the interest of all parties involved.

Let's help to support this settlement by stopping any further actions against the agreement. The terms of the agreement focus on promoting non-Microsoft software and, in fact, take a bold step toward a more unified technology industry. By working as a team, the IT sector can focus on maintaining our place in the global market. By maintaining our place in the global market, and continuing to focus on innovation, we help to strengthen our economy as a whole.

Let us not be the ones to thwart the exact process that we initiated. Let's stop any further litigation and allow our IT sector to get back to business.

Sincerely,



Gerald Hodgins